(The Professor does)

T HAT ice hockey, pelota L (a direct descendant of real tennis), hurling (akin to hockey) and sky-diving are among the fastest non-me chanical sports.

To me the fastest is the one in which your team is playing or the ones which involve class. A World Cup final may seem a fifteen-minute affair; such is the intensity of the drama.

And the slowest? Well, i has to be sumo wrestling. The pre-match rituals take hours. The actual contest may last a few seconds

But, actually the slowest is when your team is leading 1 0 in a big football match. The last minutes seem never-end-

SPORTS TALK



Chris Cairns (New Zealand all-rounder)

"My father is my best guide. He was a role model though we are different players. I would like to be different. I respect dad for what he has done."

On his father, former Test all-rounder Lance Cairns.



COMPETITION FOR SCHOOLCHILDREN

(The rules are published very Saturday.) A" sow was in the

Sports WHiZZ KID competition-19 Tick the Correct Answer

(Competition closes: 8 p.m. Dec 29, 1995) Illie Nastase was famous for playing Football Cricket

"Beamer" is a term used in Cricket Rugby

Where is Sabina Park, the famous cricket ground, located?

4. Who is Bangladesh's national football Akramov Gaffar 5. Tottenham ?

United

Rovers

Name :.....

Class Roll No : School Address:

Phone: (if any)

Yamaha Div I cricket **Sports Reporter**

DHANMONDI CLUB: 157 for 8 in 45 overs (Lipu 31. Anisul 27; Ahmed 2/16) AJAX SC: 160 for 6 in 44.3 overs (Sumon Biswas 50, Babu 27, Morshed 21; Anisul 4/27)

KHELAGHAR SKS: 168 for 9 in 45 overs (Uzzal 26. Rais 24; Deer 3/29, Khokon 2/24 : Nadir Shah 2/25) SURJO TARUN CLUB:

169 for 6 in 42 overs (Joydev 48, Tareque 38 not out, Rais 3/30, Shakil 2/18)

Ajax Sporting Club and Surjo Tarun Club won their respective matches in the Yamaha First Division cricket league held on Monday in two different venues of the capi-

Ajax, in their first league encounter, recorded a fourwicket victory over Dhanmondi Club at the City Club

ground, Mirpur. Winning the toss, Ajax invited Dhanmondi to bat in the first session and they scored 157 for eight in their alloted 45 overs. In reply, the Elephant Road-based club

reached the target in 44.3 overs losing six wickets. In the day's other match. Surjo Tarun, who lost their previous encounter to Bangladesh Boys Club, defeated Khelaghar Samaj Kallyan

Sangstha also by four wic-Put in to bat, Khelaghar collected 168 for nine in 45 overs while Surjo Tarun prevailed in 42 overs losing six

wickets.



Haider, Saiful Islam and Nasiruddin Jony in the free rifles three position of the SAF - Star photo by fax (Courtesy - Bangladesh Games shooting competition yesterday. Photo Journalists Association)

Abahani loot the Bank

Sports Reporter

BRIEF SCORES

ABAHANI KC: 257 for nine in 50 overs (Pilot 69. Durjoy 41, Akram 36; Zakir 3/54. Dipu Roy 2/46, Pial

AGRANI BANK SC: 155 in 42.4 overs (Anwar 53. Rahad 3/31, Dulu 2/14, Moni 2/19).



Reigning joint champions Abahani Krira Chakra made a cakewalk in the vision cricket league when

they outplayed promotees Agrani Bank Sports Club by 102 runs at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday. This was the second vic-

tory in a row for the Dhanmondi outfit who earlier in their league opener defeated Dhaka Wanderers by 33 runs last Thursday. Batting first, Abahani col-

lected 257 for nine in the stipulated 50 overs with wicketkeeper batsman Khaled Masud Pilot scoring 69 and all-rounder Naimur Rahman Durjoy slamming 41 runs. In reply, Agrani Bank were sent packing in 42.4 overs with 155 to their credit, 102 runs short of their target. Put in to bat, Abahani lost

their first wicket on 26 when opener Imran Hamid Partho. who scored a half-century against Dhaka Wanderers. was bowled by Bank's new Ball bowler Zakir Hossain in the 14th over scoring 13. The other opener Harunur

Rashid Liton and Durjoy added 28 runs in the second wicket stand before Liton (21) returned on 54 after giving a return catch to right hand pacer Abu Hamid Pial in the 14th over.

The next partnership between Durjoy and Pilot doubled the scoreboard (108) in

12.1 overs before Durjoy was trapped leg before by rightarm off-spinner Shariful Haque Plaban in the 26th over. Durjoy's valuable 41 runs came from only 54 balls which includes four bound-

Skipper Akram Khan joined Pilot in the 4th wicket stand and the pair took only 88 balls to add a further 80 runs. Pacer Zakir broke the partnership on 188 when he bowled Akram Khan (26) in the 41st over.

But nothing could bother a sedate Pilot who took the scoreboard to 220 in the next 4.1 overs along with allrounder Enamul Haque Moni before he lost his stumps to



PILOT ... 69

veteran left-arm medium pacer Dipu Roy Chowdhury on 69. His brilliant inning of 69 off 103 balls included a six and five boundaries.

In the remaining five overs. Abahani lost four more wickets in their haste but added another 37 runs which enabled them to end their innings on 257 for nine.

Mont (16) and Rahul (15) were the other double-figure Abahani scorers of the day.

Zakir was the most successful Bank bowler who grabbed three wickets conceding 54 runs in 10 overs while Dipu Roy and Pial earned two wickets each giving away 46 and 47 runs respectively

In reply, Agrani Bank never appeared to be able to contain an aggressive Abahani attack. Specially new ball bowlers Ashfaq Ali Rahad and Jahangir Alam Dulu were too harsh on the Bankers to share five wickets among themselves with their lethal bowling.

Opener Anwar Hossain Chowdhury was the lone Bank batsman who played with some courage. He hit 53 off 71 ball with eight boundaries before he was caught behind off a Moni delivery in the 29th over.

Among others, Pakistani batsman Nasir Ali Khan and Pial added 18 and 17 runs respectively to the Bank account.

Abahani's Rahad took three wickets giving away 31 runs in nine overs while Dulu and Moni bagged two wickets apiece conceding 14 and 19 runs respectively. Abahani will take on Gul-

shan Youth Club in their next encounter at the same venue on December 29 while Agrani Bank will meet Victoria Sporting Club on the same day at the Dhanmondi Cricket Stadium.

Lankan grappler indisposed MADRAS. Dec 25: The Sri

Lankan wrestling squad suffered a 'big jolt' when their skipper, V Munisamy, 90 kg category, was hospitalised here with chicken pox, reports PTI.

Dortmund as the winners of the major leagues. Madrid clinched their 26th major title - their first since 1990 - to end Barcelona's run of four con-

secutive Spanish league wins. Real's 2-1 victory over second-placed Deportivo la Coruna, watched by 105,000 fans at the Bernabeu Stadium, clinched the title.

Chilean Ivan Zamorano hit the winner 10 minutes from time after Brazilian Bebeto had equalised Jose Amavisca's opening goals.

Borussia Dortmund won their fourth German title, their first in 32 years, by beating Hamburg 2-0 at home, while Werder Bremen, leading by a point and with better goal difference, fell 3-1 at Bayern Munich.

Dortmund coach Ottmar Hitzfeld could pat himself on the back with victory, particularly as strikers Stephane Chapuisat, Karl Heinz Riedle. and Denmark's Flemming Povlsen were ruled out through injury late in the season.

Juventus heralded a new era in Italy to win their first title in nine years and become only the fourth team to complete the league and cup double.

Juventus beat Parma 4-0 in Turin to clinch the league. and won 3-0 on aggregate against the same opponents to win the Italian Cup. But Parma at least managed a UEFA Cup win, with a 2-1 aggregate success over Juven-The Turin club thanked

rejuvenated veteran Gianluca Vialli and new find Allessandro del Piero, who they 23 They're nearly sold to Parma, for their success. Roberto Baggio was out in-

jured for half the season, and was even unloaded to AC Milan at the end of the year. | 27 Store proving Juventus could do without the World Cup star.

league title in 12 years, and seventh in all, but the successful squad was on the verge of dismantling.

SAF hockey pride at stake today MADRAS, India, Dec 25:

Sunday night, reports AFP.

mate round-robin league

match at the Mayor Radhakr

thrashed Sri Lanka 12-0.

with Naveed Alam. Tahir Za-

man and Kamran Ashraf net

ting three goals each in an

awesome display by the

difference (37-2) against In-

dia's 25-0 leaves the visitors

needing only a draw in Tues-

day's decider to clinch the gold

Pakistan to take the title.

ennial regional Games.

But India must defeat

"We are ready to take on

"There is no pressure on

Pakistani captain Shahbaz

Pakistan," said veteran de-

fender Pargat Singh, recalled

to lead the Indians at the bi-

us. We have the resources to

Ahmed said his team will go

out to win, even though a

draw would suffice. "We play

hockey to win, not to settle

for lesser results. We will live

up to our reputation of world

their hockey team will be en-

couraged by the runaway suc-

cess of their colleagues in the

other 13 disciplines, where

India has cornered 79 of the

Unstoppable Ajax

resistible Ajax marched to

their 17th win in 18 Dutch

league matches this season as

they dispatched NEC Ni-

imegen 3-1 on Sunday, re-

without international winger

Marc Overmars for the rest of

the campaign, extended their

lead over second-placed PSV

nen, Nigerian Finidi George

and a penalty from Ronald de

Boer carrier Ajax to success.

They have scored 62 goals in

their league run of 17 wins

and one draw and conceded

Martijn Reuser was instru-

mental in the fist goal, find-

ing Litmanen in space in the

Overmars' replacement

Goals by Finn Jari Litma-

Eindhoven to eight points.

Ajax, facing up to being

ports Reuter.

only six.

12th minute.

AMSTERDAM. Dec 25: Ir-

107 golds decided so far.

Home fans are hoping

champions," he said.

Pakistan's superior goal

highly-skilled forward line.

World champions Pakistan

ishnan Stadium here.

historic tie.

medal.

win."



A Sri Lankan booter chases the ball as his Bangladeshi counterpart closes in to challenge during their SAF soccer semifinal at Nehru Stadium yesterday. Bangladesh won 5-4 on penalties after 120 minutes of play

- TV photo

Garner goes thru' roof



BRIDGETOWN. Barbados, Dec 25: Barbadian cricket expert

Joel Garner said Sunday the West Indies team is in shambles and captain Richie Richardson should be replaced. report agencies.

If the West Indies is to pose a challenge in the World Cup in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka Feb 14 to March 16. fast bowler Courtney Walsh should take over a captain. Garner wrote in his weekly column in the Sunday Advocate newspaper.

"If he (Richardson) does not perform with the bat on the current tour (of Australia), he should not go to the World Cup, as he has been a negative influence on team morale as captain and would likely continue to be so in a lesser capacity," Garner wrote. According to Garner, the

withdrawal of Brian Lara from the team before they left for their current tour of Australia has served to magnify problems existing in team unity. Lara pulled out after being

fined recently for misconduct on this year's tour of England, having been under the impression it had already been dealt with. Garner wrote, "it is high time for Courtney Walsh to assume his rightful place

until he retires, as he has earned it. Had he been captain in the first place, there might have been no "Lara af-"It is much more likely that the players will settle down under him, as they have done in the past, and

begin to focus on what they are being paid to do. "Things are not going to change overnight, but at least they will be heading in a positive direction and this will

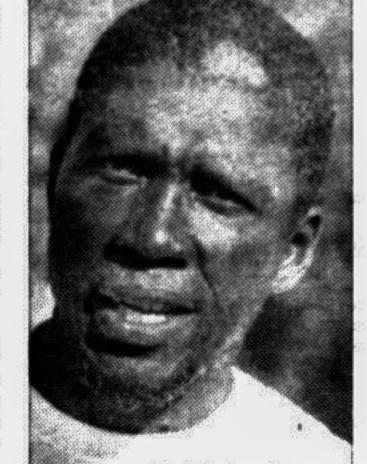
be best for all concerned." Walsh successfully led West Indies on tours of India and New Zealand in 1994-95

when Richardson took a break from the game because of acute mental fatigue. Richardson has survived a

good deal of pressure since his appointment as captain in 1991 ahead of long-serving opener Desmond Haynes, a decision which itself was not altogether popular throughout the region As captain. Richardson

has a 45.8 per cent winning record compared with the 48.6 per cent winning record of Clive Lloyd, the most successful West Indies captain of all time.

His Test average was 47.90 - with 14 centuries from 62 games before he became captain, but since 1991 he has averaged 35.18 with two centuries in 24 Tests.



JOEL GARNER

Garner, 43, a 6-foot 8inch, fast bowler known to fans as "Big Bird," took 259 wickets in 58 Tests for the West Indies between 1977 and 1987.

His comments are even weightier because he is one of two Barbados delegates to the West Indies Cricket Board of Control (WICBC)

Richardson, who has led the West Indies in 24 Tests since succeeding Viv Richards, has been under mounting pressure as his own batting form has declined and his team, undermined by internal divisions,

It has lost all three matches it has played in the World Series tournament in Australia after the shock withdrawal of star batsman Brian Lara two days before the team left the Caribbean on Nov 26 A team manager's report

has struggled to win matches.

that Lara complained at a summer team meeting that Richardson was responsible for problems on the squad. Garner said that Lara's position is shared by other

leaked to the press revealed

players - "something many of us have known for some time. He said Richardson's appointment was an opportunity for team administrators

to regain control of the players, because former team captains Clive Lloyd and Viv Richards could not be controlled. Richardson, he wrote,

"Appears to do their bidding unquestionably. Now there's a funny thing

about puppets." Garner added. "Even though they are quite animated when their strings are pulled, they cannot pull the strings themselves, much less those of others. Put them in charge of others and everything falls down as there is no one really in control."

Garner also saw a need for change in the WICBC leader-

He named Jamaican businessman Pat Rousseau as the likely successor to incumbent president Peter Short of Barbados at the annual general meeting in May.

"He comes at a time when

a whole new direction must be forged for West Indies cricket," Garner wrote.

It's two sides of the same coin Leeds look free of rust



PARIS, Dec 25 (AFP): Ajax Amsterdam completed their metamorphosis from

rope to the best club in the world in 1995 when they beat Brazil's Gremio to lift the Inter Continental Cup.

That 4-3 win on penalties. following a 0-0 draw in Tokyo on November 28, stretched their unbeaten run to 66 matches in all competitions and propelled them from Dutch superstars to world beaters.

Off the pitch, a fair share of controversy was also present in 1995 when Eric Cantona was banned for a kung-fu kick, Patrice Loko went off the rails, a German player failed a drugs test, and Dynamo Kiev were banned from the European Champions'

Gremio, with more of a

physical game than the aesthetic skill of neighbouring Brazilian clubs, were not expected to beat Louis van Gaal's side and Ajax contop club in Eufirmed their favourites status with their usual brand of entertaining, attacking football.

And, by late December, Ajax had still not lost a Dutch league game since a 2-1 loss to Willheilm II on May 8 1994 the last day of the 1993/94

Of course victory in the European Champion's Cup final on May 24 in Vienna -Ajax's first triumph since winning three years running from 1971-1973 - pushed five-times champion AC Milan into the background.

Ironically frank Rijkaard, one of dutch trio who masterminded Milan's 1989 and 1990 European Cup wins, switched roles and excelled

for Ajax this time. Rijkaard's angled pass

through the Milan defence was instrumental in creating Patrick Kluivert's 83rd minute goal for a 1-0 win. At 18, Kluivert was the youngest ever scorer in a Champions' Cup

final. Meanwhile, Gremio won the Copa Libertadores, equivalent of the European Champions' Cup, for the second time with a 4-2 aggregate scoreline over Colombia's Nacional of Medellin.

Like Brazil's 1994 World Cup winning team, Gremio's strengths were organisation and physical power rather than the flair-based sides more traditional in Brazil.

Gremio's most impressive win came in the quarterfinals when they pipped favourites Palmeiras 6-5 on aggregate.

In the 1994/95 season in Europe, a new sweep of the brush brought through Blackburn Rovers, Juventus, Real Madrid, Nantes and Borussia



LONDON. Dec 25: Ghanaian Tony Yeboah and fellow striker Brian Deane

struck matchwinning goals as Leeds upset Manchester United's attempt to close the gap on English Premier leaders Newcastle on Sunday, reports Reuter.

Yeboah scored in the 36th minute and Deane in the 73rd to thrust Leeds to a 3-1 home victory over secondplaced United whose second consecutive league defeat left them 10 points behind Newcastle.

Leeds, trounced 6-2 at Sheffield Wednesday last weekend, were given an early lift when Gary McAllister scored from a penalty kick after six minutes. Andy Cole equalised after

30 minutes with only his

28 "Common

kicker's

30 Place-

33 Uproar

tunny

37 Where

41 Undeni

19 Remark re 1 Dumas' 10 "Caught

Solution time: 22 mins

coverup

know th

ACROSS

1 Make lace

4 One type

of rally

7 Of the type

indicated

8 Michel-

angelo

master

11 "Peer Gynt

13 Quibbling

Lucci role

17 Susan

18 Tokyo's

20 Cruising

21 Abounding

in foliage

just one

another

kingdom

16 Pump up 39 lowa cit

piece

10 Cats'

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

Black

genus

person to

the Worlds"

aftermath

4 "War of

5 Titular

7 Bridge

8 Some

9 Most in

3 A good

2 Maple

fourth goal of the season but Yeboah restored Leeds' advantage six minutes later.

Deane sealed victory for

Leeds with a headed goal during a seven-minute period when United played with 10 men while French striker Eric Cantona was off the field receiving stitches to a head wound. United manager Alex Fer-

guson, whose side were convincingly beaten 2-0 by Liverpool at Anfield on December 17, recalled Roy Keane after a six-game absence to give the midfield some steel and also included Paul Parker at the back for his first start since September.

Keane worked tirelessly to try to give United control but Parker contributed to his side's downfall with a wretched display, his error leading to Yeboah's goal

12 Llama's

14 Suppli-

15 - long

19 Motorists

20 Send out

24 Item in

25 Petrol

freezer

26 Basketball

28 One of a

34 Ontario's

35 Heavy

coach Pat

Broadway 21 Sky-blue

6 Actor Brad 23 Burt's ex

Leeds, whose response to the mauling at Sheffield Wednesday, sent in Deane for Andy Couzens, could not have made a more ideal start.

McAllister's corner from the right was met by Gary Speed's head and, amid a mass of confusion and falling bodies, referee Dermot Gallagher spotted a handling offence by Nickey Butt and awarded a penalty.

Deane hit the bar shortly afterwards but United got back on terms when Speed lost possession on the edge of the penalty area, but crossed, and Cole turned the

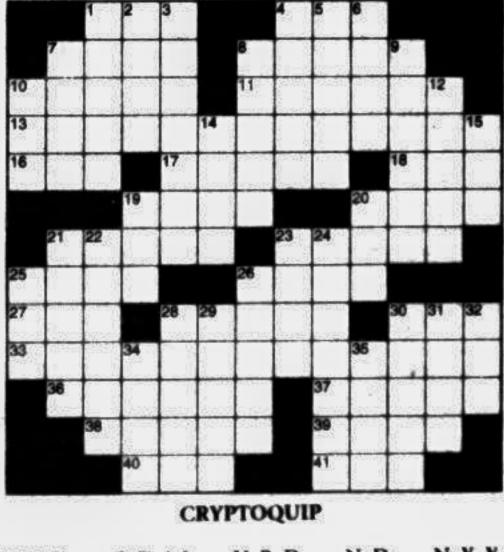
ball home. Leeds were back in front six minutes later when Yeboah pounced on an error by Parker, surged through the middle and struck an angled drive past goalkeeper Peter

Schmeichel.



Leeds' Ghanaian international Tony Yeboah (white jersey) places the ball past Manchester United's custodian Peter Schmeichel from a scramble to score the second goal for his team during a English Premier league match at Elen Road, Leeds on Dec 24. - AFP/UNB photo Leeds won 3-1.

owner on The Simpsons Nantes won their first



RHD DUND JNI LBADFI UCJ AMFN LBHVS DUA Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE PINE-CLIMBING CONTEST WAS FOR THOSE OF US WANTING TO

LIMBER UP. Today's Cryptoquip clue: Y equals L

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error